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September 10, 2004

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Deborah Taylor Tate, Director
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: *Performance Measurement Workshop*

Dear Director Tate:

Attached is BellSouth's issues list for the September 14, 2004 Performance Measurement Workshop. The parties have been unable to agree on a joint issues list. Last Friday afternoon AT&T provided BellSouth a 27-page issues list. On Tuesday morning, BellSouth advised AT&T that BellSouth was agreeable to that list with the addition of one page of additional issues. However, AT&T subsequently withdrew its proposal. BellSouth then proposed a streamlined two page issues list, which AT&T rejected yesterday. The CLECs then provided a different issues list late yesterday afternoon which BellSouth does not believe is a productive or helpful proposal.

BellSouth does not believe that an issues list, agreed upon or otherwise, is necessary. The workshop is designed to be informational, not adversarial. BellSouth proposes that, consistent with prior discussions during the status conference, that both sides be allowed to proceed on Tuesday with an overview and detailed presentations on performance domains (e.g., maintenance and repair). As you will recall, the Authority's recent workshops regarding Hot Cuts and Voice Over Internet Protocol both provided important information to the Directors, Staff and parties and both were successfully concluded without issues lists agreed upon by the parties. The purpose of the workshop should be to enlighten the TRA. The TRA should not be distracted by "competing issue lists" when all parties will have the opportunity to present their respective priorities.

As noted in BellSouth's letter to you dated September 7, BellSouth has no objection to the short delay requested by the CLECs for filing their PowerPoint

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presentation. BellSouth does object, however, to any delay in the date of the workshop itself. BellSouth's employees are traveling to attend and have already made arrangements for this important workshop. Given the numerous ongoing regulatory proceedings in Tennessee and throughout the region, BellSouth is concerned that changing the date will result in undue delay of this process.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping loop that starts under the 'V' of 'Very', goes up and over the 'y', then loops back down and to the left, ending under the 'y'.

Guy M. Hicks

GMH:ch

**Issues List for Tennessee Performance Assurance Plan Workshop
September, 14, 2004**

The following issues would be addressed separately for each measurement domain in the Bellsouth existing SQM and SEEM

1. Is BellSouth providing nondiscriminatory performance to CLECs as monitored in the current Plan?
2. Has Bellsouth produced timely data in accordance with the requirements of the current Plan?
3. Has BellSouth's performance under the current Plan degraded since receiving 271 approval?
4. Are payments under the current SEEM consistent with the level of performance provided? If not, what are the principal causes of the inconsistency?
5. What measures, if any, in the current Plan are not critical to evaluating performance?
6. What sub-metrics, if any, in the current Plan are not critical to evaluating performance?
7. What critical processes, if any, are not addressed by the existing performance data or SEEM?
8. How has BellSouth's performance under the current Plan affected development of competition in Tennessee?
9. Has BellSouth's performance under the current Plan provided CLECs with a meaningful opportunity to compete?
10. Should a Performance Assurance Plan be established for CLECs?

**Issues List for Tennessee Performance Assurance Plan Workshop
September, 14, 2004**

These issues would be addressed for the following domains:

1. Provisioning
2. Maintenance and Repair
3. Ordering
4. OSS (Pre-ordering)
5. Billing
6. Operator Services and Directory Assistance
7. Database Update Information
8. E911
9. Trunk Group Performance
10. Collocation
11. Change Management

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 10, 2004, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via hand delivery, facsimile, overnight or US Mail, addressed as follows:

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